TOWN OF AMENIA **Special Town Board Meeting** Wednesday, February 11, 2009 Amenia Town Hall

Supervisor Euvrard called **Special Board Meeting** to order at 7:00 pm.

Salute to the flag was conducted.

Moment of silence for troops serving world-wide.

Emergency Exits at right of town board meeting table and at rear of meeting room.

ROLL: Councilman Pelkey Aye

Councilwoman Doyle Aye
Councilwoman Perotti ABSENT
Councilman Cayea Aye
Supervisor Euvrard Aye

JOINT MEETING WITH AMENIA TOWN BOARD AND WEBUTUCK SCHOOL BOARD

Supervisor Euvrard announced that Special Meeting is being held with Amenia Town Board and Webutuck School Board to discuss the possible **acquisition of the Amenia Elementary School** on Route 22 in Amenia, New York. Acknowledged donation of refreshments from PTA.

Supervisor Euvrard introduced members of the Webutuck School Board:

Dale Culver President

Linda Peters Business Manager Joe Matteo Board Member

PRESENTATION

Mr. Culver explained that Webutuck School District will be receiving much less state aid monies, which will impact school programs; student enrollment has decreased by approximately 2 per cent each year for the last 12 years. Cost reductions will be in the areas of building maintenance, transportation, teachers, and other staff.

Mr. Culver stated that the School Board has not made a final decision to close the Amenia Elementary School, but announcement is expected by March 2009. Building could either be sold at fair market or donated to the Town of Amenia, which would then require a referendum in May 2009.

Supervisor Euvrard stated that the town hall is housed in "inadequate facilities" and that he has been looking for a new location for ten years. Supervisor reported that most people he has spoken to are in favor of moving town hall to the Amenia Elementary School building.

Supervisor Euvrard announced volunteers for TASK FORCE: Robert Meade, Ken Hale, Leo Blackman. Anyone interested should contact the Supervisor's office.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Boyles, Jr Marilyn Unger Arlene Iuliano Pat Nelligan Darlene Reimer Jeanne Rebillard Peter Judge Cecilia Stancell Myrnie Hoazl Bennett Chin

DISCUSSION

School renovation cost – Dale Culver commented that list of repair costs have been discussed with Town Board.

Supervisor Euvrard stated that considerable funds are available to cover some of the repair costs.

Tri-Wall (certificate of deposit) monies (\$300,000) could to be used for upgrade.

Issue of school enrollment could change if and when Silo Ridge finishes construction.

Task force should include engineers to review condition of school building. Resident requested copy of local engineer list. Mr. Culver stated that conservation energy test recently completed.

Millerton resident suggested that building be offered for bid.

Concerns with bus routes and length of time on bus for younger students.

Transportation analysis being conducted, as stated by Mr. Culver.

Teacher/student class ratio. Long-term vs. short term plans for consolidation.

Amount remaining on original 20-year Bond funded for Capital Project to renovate/repair five school buildings.

Income for Amenia Fire Company if building vacated, with projected construction on Cascade Road for new Fire Company.

MOTION by Supervisor Euvrard, SECOND by Councilman Cayea to ADJOURN Special Board Meeting at 7:59 pm with motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Maureen Bonds Amenia Town Clerk

Draft to Town Board: March 9, 2009

Approved by Town Board: March 12, 2009

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